

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A server/client system in which a plurality of servers and a plurality of clients are connected through a network, and the servers execute a process based on a process request from the clients and transmit a process result to the clients, wherein

at least one of the servers includes

a process information receiving unit configured to receive information on the process from the clients through the network;

a determining unit configured to determine a server to execute the process from among the servers based on the information on the process; and

a server information transmitting unit configured to transmit information on the determined server to the clients, and

each of the clients includes

a server information receiving unit configured to receive the information on the determined server; and

a process request transmitting unit configured to transmit the process request to the determined server,

wherein the determining unit includes

a first calculating unit configured to calculate, for each of the servers, a first distance from an estimation point indicating an estimated consumption to an ideal consumption line, the first distance being a normal that connects the estimation point and the ideal consumption line, the estimated consumption obtained by adding an amount of resource to be consumed by execution of the process to a point indicating ~~an amount of resource that has been consumed by~~ a current resource consumption for each of the servers, the ideal consumption line being a straight line that connects an origin point and a point indicating a maximum resource capacity for each of the servers expressed in a space having parameters of

resource as axes; and

a second distance calculating unit configured to calculate, for each of the servers, a second distance from the estimation point to the origin point in the space, and the determining unit is configured to determine the server based on at least one of the first distance and the second distance.

15. (Previously Presented) The server/client system according to claim 14, wherein the parameters include at least one of a load amount of a central processing unit, a load amount of a system memory, a load amount of a graphic processing unit, a load amount of a video memory, and a load amount of a network interface card.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A load distribution device used in a server/client system in which a plurality of servers and a plurality of clients are connected through a network, and the servers execute a process based on a process request from the clients and transmit a process result to the clients, comprising:

a processor;

a process information receiving unit configured to receive information on the process from the clients through the network;

a determining unit configured to determine a server to execute the process from among the servers based on the information on the process; and

a server information transmitting unit configured to transmit information on the determined server to the clients,

wherein the determining unit includes

a first calculating unit configured to calculate, for each of the servers, a first distance from an estimation point indicating an estimated consumption to an ideal consumption line, the first distance being a normal that connects the estimation point and the ideal consumption line, the estimated consumption obtained by adding an amount of resource to be consumed by execution of the process to a point indicating a current resource consumption for each of the servers, the ideal consumption line being a straight line that

connects an origin point and a point indicating a maximum resource capacity for each of the servers expressed in a space having parameters of resource as axes; and

a second distance calculating unit configured to calculate, for each of the servers, a second distance from the estimation point to the origin point in the space, and

the determining unit is configured to determine the server based on at least one of the first distance and the second distance.

18. (Previously Presented) The load distribution device according to claim 17, the parameters include at least one of a load amount of a central processing unit, a load amount of a system memory, a load amount of a graphic processing unit, a load amount of a video memory, and a load amount of a network interface card.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) A load distribution method used in a server/client system in which a plurality of servers and a plurality of clients are connected through a network, and the servers execute a process based on a process request from the clients and transmit a process result to the clients, comprising:

receiving information on the process from the clients through the network;

determining a server to execute the process from among the servers based on the information on the process; and

transmitting the process request to the determined server,

wherein the determining includes

calculating, for each of the servers, a first distance from an estimation point indicating an estimated consumption to an ideal consumption line, the first distance being a normal that connects the estimation point and the ideal consumption line, the estimated consumption obtained by adding an amount of resource that has been consumed by execution of the process to a point indicating a current resource consumption for each of the servers, the ideal consumption line being a straight line that connects an origin point and a point indicating a maximum resource capacity for each of the servers expressed in a space having parameters of resource as axes; and

calculating, for each of the servers, a second distance from the estimation point to the origin point, in the space, and

the determining includes determining the server based on at least one of the first distance and the second distance.

21. (Previously Presented) The load distribution method according to claim 20, wherein the parameters include at least one of a load amount of a central processing unit, a load amount of a system memory, a load amount of a graphic processing unit, a load amount of a video memory, and a load amount of a network interface card.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable recording medium that stores therein a load distribution program for distributing loads of servers in a server/client system in which a plurality of servers and a plurality of clients are connected through a network, and the servers execute a process based on a process request from the clients and transmit a process result to the clients, the load distribution program making the servers execute:

receiving information on the process from the clients through the network;

determining a server to execute the process from among the servers based on the information on the process; and

transmitting the process request from the clients to the determined server,

wherein the determining includes

calculating, for each of the servers, a first distance from an estimation point indicating an estimated consumption to an ideal consumption line, the first distance being a normal that connects the estimation point and the ideal consumption line, the estimated consumption obtained by adding an amount of resource to be consumed by execution of the process to a point indicating a current resource consumption for each of the servers, the ideal consumption line being a straight line that connects an origin point and a point indicating a maximum resource capacity for each of the servers expressed in a space having parameters of resource as axes; and

calculating, for each of the servers, a second distance from the estimation point to the

origin point, in the space, and

the determining includes determining the server based on at least one of the first distance and the second distance.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 23, wherein the parameters include at least one of a load amount of a central processing unit, a load amount of a system memory, a load amount of a graphic processing unit, a load amount of a video memory, and a load amount of a network interface card.